Measures taken by DCA include prosecution and liquidation proceedings. The Companies Act, 1956 has been amended for the protection of small investors/ depositors.

RBI has been taking various measures to provide reasonable safety for funds deposited with NBFCs.

Amendment of SEBI Act, 1992

4285. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO.
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are seriously thinking of amending the SEBI Act, 1992, empowering the Regulator to impound the proceeds and securities in suspected transactions as well as to attach bank accounts of intermediaries or persons involved in market violation;

(b) whether Government also propose to give investigative powers to SEBI;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when Government propose to bring it before Parliament for its approval?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (d) Government has initiated examination of possible legislative changes to further strengthen provisions in the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) Act, 1992 for investor protection and to make SEBI an even more effective body for regulation and development of capital markets.

FEMA cases against MD of Tata Finance Limited (TFL)

4286. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Tata Finance provides more data to cops on Pendse", which appeared in the Business Standard, New Delhi on 3rd December, 2001;

(b) if so, under what Sections of FEMA and other statute's cases against the former Chief Managing Director (CMD) of Tata Finance Limited (TFL) have been registered for siphonning/diverting of funds to other countries; and

(c) what is the latest position of investigation and what steps are being taken to recover the amount from the former CMD of TFL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Enforcement Directorate has not received any reference in this regard relating to violation of either Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA). 1973 of Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999 from the Mumbai Police Department.

Amendment in Customs Tariff Act

*287. SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD:
SHRI NANA DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether to protect the domestic industry from cheap imports from China, the Ministry of Finance has empowered itself to impose product specific safeguards duty;

(b) if so, whether the duty chargeable will be in addition to any other duty imposed for similar imports from other countries;

(c) whether any amendment to this effect is being considered in the Customs Tariff Act;

(d) if so, by what time final decision in this regard is likely to be taken; and

(e) to what extent it will check the cheap imports from China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN): (a) No, Sir. However, the Finance Bill, 2002 proposed to amend the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, so as to insert new section 8C which provides that if the Central Government, after conducting such enquiry as it deems fit, is satisfied that any article is imported into India, from the People's Republic of China, in such increased quantities and under such conditions so as to cause or threatening to cause market disruption to domestic industry, it may impose safeguard duty on that article.